

St. Joseph, Guardian of Jesus

March 19, 2020



FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH AND SCHOOL
1701 East Park Boulevard – Plano, Texas...972-423-7447

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Divine Services: Sunday 8:00 & 10:45 a.m.; Wylie 9:30 a.m.

Sunday School & Bible Classes 9:30 a.m.; Wylie 11:15 a.m.

It was King David's idea to build a permanent house for the ark of the covenant and the Lord's name (2 Sam. 7:5–7). The temple he planned was built by King Solomon, but it was never really David or Solomon who housed and protected God. *"The LORD declares to you that the LORD will make you a house"* (2 Sam. 7:11). St. Joseph was not Jesus' true father, since the child *"conceived in [Mary] is from the Holy Spirit"* (Matt. 1:20). The Church commemorates him instead as the "guardian of Jesus." Heeding the word of God's angels, protecting the unborn Christ, sparing the infant Jesus from Herod's wrath, seeing Him *"out of Egypt"* again (Matt. 2:13–23) and bringing Him up *"in the discipline and instruction of the Lord"* (Eph. 6:4), Joseph is an example for all Christian fathers and guardians. But as with David "housing" the Lord who made a house for him, Joseph was never really the guardian. Christ was. His Name is *"Jesus, for He will save His people from their sins"* (Matt. 1:21). The *"offspring"* promised to Abraham and renewed in the promises to David is the One *"who gives life to the dead"* (Rom. 4:16–18). He is David's King, Abraham's Lord, Joseph's Guardian and our Savior.

WELCOME TO FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH. We are thankful that you are with us today. Please fill out our attendance booklet during the offering. You are invited to join us again. May the peace of Christ be with you.

THE LORD'S SUPPER is a confession that we are united in holding to all the doctrines of God's Word. Those who do not know and hold to the doctrinal commitment of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod are requested to attend the Adult Instruction Class for membership before communing at Faith Lutheran Church.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C **And with thy spirit.**

P Let us pray. Almighty God, from the house of Your servant David You raised up Joseph to be the guardian of Your incarnate Son and the husband of His mother, Mary. Grant us grace to follow the example of this faithful workman in heeding Your counsel and obeying Your commands; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Old Testament Reading

2 Samuel 7:4-16

(Due to the length of the reading you are invited to listen)

P This is the Word of the Lord,

C **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual

(Psalm 45:6-7b)

P Your throne, O God, is forever and | ever.*

The scepter of your kingdom is a scepter of up- | rightness;

C **You have loved righteousness and hated | wickedness.***

Therefore God, your God, has anointed you with the oil of | gladness.

Epistle Reading

Romans 4:13-18

The promise to Abraham and his offspring that he would be heir of the world did not come through the law but through the righteousness of faith. For if it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath, but where there is no law there is no transgression. That is why it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his offspring—not only to the adherent of the law but also to the one who shares the faith of Abraham, who is the father of us all, as it is written, “I have made you the father of many nations”—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. In hope he believed against hope, that he should become the father of many nations, as he had been told, “So shall your offspring be.”

P This is the Word of the Lord,

C **Thanks be to God.**

(The Alleluia is omitted during Lent.)

Verse

(Matthew 1:24)

P When Joseph | woke from sleep; *
He did as the angel of the Lord com- | manded him.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 2:13–15, 19-23

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 2nd chapter.

C **Glory be to Thee, O Lord.**

When [the wise men] had departed, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, “Rise, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you, for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him.” And he rose and took the child and his mother by night and departed to Egypt and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet, “Out of Egypt I called my son. . . .”

But when Herod died, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt, saying, “Rise, take the child and his mother and go to the land of Israel, for those who sought the child’s life are dead.” And he rose and took the child and his mother and went to the land of Israel. But when he heard that Archelaus was reigning over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there, and being warned in a dream he withdrew to the district of Galilee. And he went and lived in a city called Nazareth, that what was spoken by the prophets might be fulfilled: “He shall be called a Nazarene.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise be to Thee, O Christ.**

Nicene Creed

p191

Sermon Hymn: “*By All Your Saints in Warfare*”
(stanzas 1, 14 & 3)

LSB 517

Sermon

Offertory

p192

Offering

Prayer of the Church

P Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

Service of the Sacrament

Preface - Sanctus - Lord's Prayer

p194 ff

The Words of Our Lord - Pax Domini - Agnus Dei

Nunc Dimittis - Thanksgiving - Post-Communion Collect *p199 ff*

Salutation - Benedicamus - Benediction

Closing Hymn: “*Children of the Heavenly Father*”

LSB 725

Acknowledgments

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